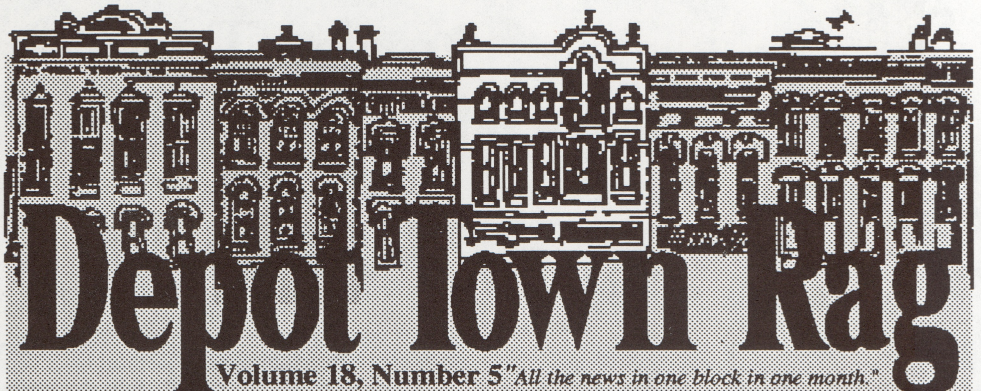


Depot Town Rag

Volume 18, Number 5 *"All the news in one block in one month."*

A Publication of the DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION, INC. P.O. Box 970-235, Ypsilanti, MI 48197-0804

May
1995

100% FREE
Rag Content

- Camp Mizner lost and found
- ***New sign is up***
- **Macker is back!**
- Food Co-op's annual meeting
- ***The Wobblies are back, too***

and other strictly local stuff. . . .

Ypsilanti Players "Bump Off Barnaby"

The Ypsilanti Players production of "But Why Bump Off Barnaby?" is sure to be an evening of great amusement. A group of British guests combine with one very American police reporter to solve a murder mystery with an ample amount of farce. This murder mystery comedy by Rick Abbot will be shown on Friday and Saturday evenings May 5th, 6th, 12th and 13th at The Little Theater at St. Luke's Church, 120 North Huron St., Ypsilanti.

Nearly penniless Barnaby Folcey is invited to England to visit his wealthy uncle, Orion Leduc and stay at the English Mansion along with a gathering of curious characters. The include Rosaline Barstow, the glamorous fortune huntress, Cleo Baron, a middle-aged Hollywood actress who brings along Jeff Barnett, a policed reporter. Lady Barbara Fenwick, the deaf sister-in-law of Uncle Orion, whose deafness is played to the comical hilt, Miss Barnsdale, ex-governess of Uncle Orion and dimwitted Dora, grandniece of Orion and long distant playmate of Barnaby. The newly hired and serene butler, Medkins, and the maid, Magnolia, round out the cast that bumbles its way through the thunderous night alternating suspect with hero.

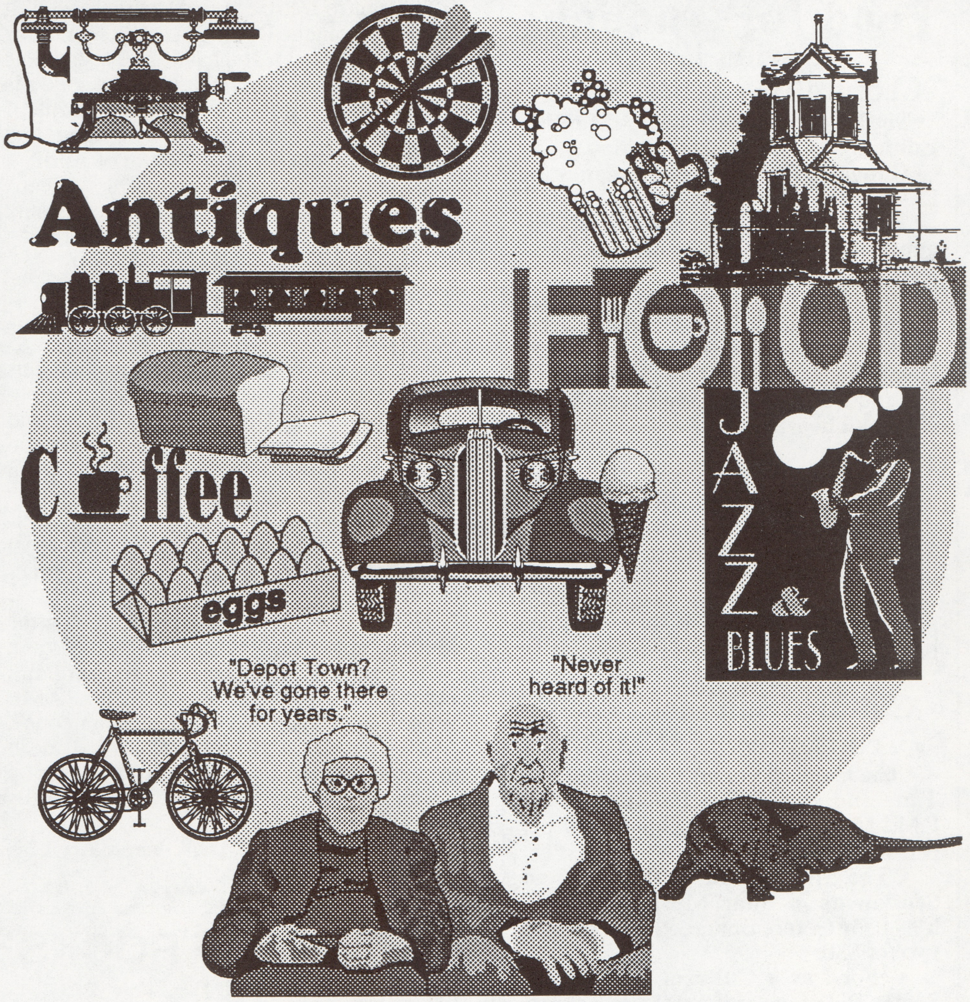
There is a death scene by a fly that is as dramatic as they get. Gunshots, poisoned drinks, and revolving walls play havoc with the solution to this murder mystery. There is also a secret limerick that ties all the players together in an attempt to find their fortunes.

Playwright, Rick Abbot's works revolve around the absurd, and "Barnaby" is but one of his many farces. Other works of Abbot's include "June Groom", "Dracula; The Musical?" and "A Turn for the Nurse."

The Ypsilanti Players, organized by Daniel L. Quirk, Jr. as a playreading group in 1915, has found its most recent home in St. Luke's Church and continues to serve with excellent community theater.

Show times for "But Why Bump Off Barnaby?" are 8:00 P.M. There is a dinner package available at HAAB'S restaurant and the SIDETRACK bar and grill in Ypsilanti. Prices including dinner are $20., $18 if purchased by April 22. Tickets for the show only are $8, $6.50 for seniors and students. Be sure to see "But Why Bump Off Barnaby?"

For additional information, call Diane Beaupré at 483-4926.



Ypsilanti's historic Depot Town
"Everybody's coming back; down between the River and the Railroad track."

20th Anniversary celebrated at Co-op

The Ypsilanti Food Co-op will be celebrating their 20th anniversary May 6, Saturday, with a variety of presentations and fun foods to enjoy and the entire community is invited to join in the happy celebration of their two decades of success.

Gita Posselt, master gardener and proprietor of Goldenrod Farm, will discuss current trends in organic gardening and helpful tips for burgeoning organic gardeners beginning at 10A.M. Starting at 11A.M, Linda Diane Feldt, a local teacher and practitioner of holistic health care, will provide a cooking demonstration and recipes using wild and cultivated greens. There is no cost to attend the presentations, but reservations are requested. Each presentation will last about one hour.

Concluding the 20th anniversary celebration, vegetarian dogs and burgers with appropriate condiments will be made available from noon to whenever the supplies run out.

The Ypsilanti Food Co-op is located at 312 N. River Street. For more information, please call 483-1520.

Market Advisory opening

Let DTA president, Tom Steele, know of your interest in advising the Ypsilanti Farmers' Market and he'll nominate you for the Mayor's appointment. Dave French announced his retirement this month and a list will be made at the May 18 DTA meeting.

Eastern Michigan University

Depot Town Center

Lifespan Learning Programs

Food for Thought

Spring 1995
Lecture/Discussion Series

- **The News from Sarajevo; A Monthly Edition,** by Colleen London, May 2
- **Gangs and Juvenile Delinquency**, by Dr. Joseph Rankin, May 9
- **The State of Homelessness in Michigan: Focus on the Children**, by Dr. Richard Douglass, May 16
- **Pretrial Publicity and Its Impact on Low-Profile and High-Profile Cases: From John Doe to O.J. Simpson**, by Dr. Gregg Barak, May 23
- **Dinosaurs: Extinct Myths and Radical New Theories**, by Dave Thomas, June 6

Single Session $8 per person. Attend with a Friend Discount $12 for two; - single session, $50 for two - entire series. Series Discount per person $32, all five sessions.

For answers to questions on any of these program, call the Depot Town Center Office at 487-6815.

Cultural Sampler Series continues... INDIA

- **The Cage of Form: Conceptions of Time and Divinity in Indian Art,** 7-9 P.M., May 1, by Walter Spink, $19 per person, two for $30.
- **The Music of India; Sounds and Sentiments of Sitar Music**, 7-9 P.M., May 8, by Gernot Blume, $19 per person, two for $30.
- **Food as a Cultural Experience: Social, Religious and Aesthetic Aspects of Indian Cuisine**, 7-9 P.M., May 15 by Hemalata Dandekar, $19 per person, two for $30.

For more information, call the Depot Town Center Office at 487-6815.

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Dateline: Depot Town

A Neighborhood Forgotten by Time (and Life and Newsweek)

Four stars at the Sidtrack

Sidetrack Grill has received the following honor in *FoleyGuide*: "Best hamburger in Ann Arbor Area."

FoleyGuide rates restaurants on a one-to-five star scale on overall rating, food, setting, service, and value. For stars is considered an honor; five stars is among the best in the state. *FoleyGuide, Restaurants of Detroit* is a new restaurant guide with ratings based on a survey of 800 metro Detroit area restaurantgoers. It includes the metro Detroit area, the Ann Arbor and Windsor areas, and handful of restaurants from other parts of Michigan. The guide is published under the Avonstoke imprint of Momentum Books, Troy, Michigan and reached the bookstores at the end of April.

"Congratulations on your achievement," says Greg Foley, editor and publisher. "I thank you for contributing to Michigan's fine dining scene."

The Macker is back in Ypsi's downtown district!

Welcome players, to the 1995 Ypsilanti Gus Macker 3-on-3 Charity Basketball Tournament. Oakwood Hospital Beyer Center and the Ypsilanti Area Visitors & Convention Bureau are pleased to host the sixth annual Macker in our community.

The Macker will be played on the Downtown Streets on May 20 and 21. Our great organization of volunteers work hard to accommodate all our visitors' needs.

This year's information brochure for the Macker announces the event's official title: "The Original Street Basketball Slammin', Jammin', Fast-Paced, World Tourin', Mr. Wilson can Dennis have an ice cream cone?, Ankle-Tapin', Take 2 Motrin IB and call me in the morning, Driving our Ford Trucks, Gus on the mic, Eatin' 'za, Dribblin' downtown, B-Ball action around."

Team entry fee of $80 was due by April 20. Information: 483-4444.

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EDUCATIONAL
Polished and raw specimens
Plus Amber, Lapis, Meteorites
•
Eggs, Spheres, Fossils and More
-ENJOY-
"Gifts, projects or build your own collection"
At Ypsilanti Farmers' Market
Wed. and Sat. 8-2
...Ride for Bob, Gail Kornbluth ...

New cornice sign plays off awning theme

James MacDonald's and Apple Annie's have created a delightful play on their shop's long name in their addition of the sign at the first floor cornice level at 29 East Cross Street. Adding to their unique and tasteful lavendar-and-green facade put up last fall, the glitzy new sign board identifies the district's venerable antique emporium as "James MacDonald's and Apple Annie's" while the awning announces "Antiques and Vintage Clothing" in its own spread across the building's bay.

One of the truisms of the historic preservation movement has been the rediscovery of the fact that, aside from the practical aspect of shade from the southern sun, the shed-style awning becomes an important visual identification and sign board for the business within. Jim's and Annie's (Lynn Radtke, actually!) have underlined this fact with their great new facade. It's complete, resplendent, and efficient in announcing who does what within. And the total design fits the scope and style of the district with elegance and style befitting the Nineteenth Century this disctrict constantly endeavors to emulate. How very Victorian!

New Mayor's a *Rag* picker

Cheryl Farmer sent in her $10 Depot Town Association associate membership and she checked the box indicating DTA would not have to add her name to the mailing list.

"I'm a *Rag* picker," said Mayor Farmer, indicating she would pick up her monthly newsletter from the neighborhood somewhere in the block each issue. Nearly half of DTA's associate members follow that good example, and it's an indicator that our clientele is very local and very loyal. About twenty-five associate members are so far away that they read about the block at a distance; the rest are terribly regular and their annual ten dollars goes into the cost of printing, rather than mailing.

Either is just fine -- and a $100 Life Membership keeps readers on the mailing list as long as we are publishing - whether you get re-elected or not.

"Regular" memberships ($25 per year) are for building and business owners and are the voting body of the Assocation.

Hottest little corner bar & grill in town!
Rated
best burgers!
- Detroit
Monthly
SIDETRACK
Bar & Grill
• 8 beers
on draught
Ypsilanti's Hottest Bar!
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Camp Mizner quest continued

[from page 5]

in a very near and appropriate speech, full of patriotic and soul-stirring sentiments, - Col. Sinclair responded, returning the thanks of the regiment, and assuring the ladies that their beautiful gift should share the fortunes of the camp and battle-field and be returned with honor. Gov. Blair being present was called upon and made appropriate remarks. We have not the time or space for an extended notice.

The Peninsular Courier, Ann Arbor, March 25, 1862:

Card of Thanks

At a meeting of the non-commissioned officers and privates of Co.A 14th Regiment Michigan Infantry, held at Camp Mizner, March 20, 1862, the following Resolutions were unanimously passed:

Resolved, that while from day to day during our stay at Camp Mizner we have been placed under many and great obligations by the uniform kindness and courtesy of Benj. Follett Esq., of Ypsilanti, we have in rendering our cheerful and heartfelt gratitude for the same, to acknowledge ourselfs (sic) the happy recipients of new estimable favors at his hands, in the same presentation to each of us a beautiful edition of the Book of Common Prayers.

That in this crowning exhibition of his kindness, our hearts are moved with emotions which cannot be expressed in words, and that although it beyond our power in any manner to repay the generous giver, we will ever bear him in mind, and will vie with each other in manly conduct, and soldierly bearing, both in camp and in field, thereby hoping to prove that we can appreciate and are in some manner worthy of his kindly regards.

The Peninsular Courier, Ann Arbor, Tuesday, April 15, 1862

The Fourteenth Regiment are now being paid off and a happy set of fellows they are. It is expected that the Governor and staff will review the regiment tomorrow (Wednesday). They will start for St. Louis on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock.

The Peninsular Courier, Ann Arbor, April 22, 1862

Accidentally shot

On Tuesday last Samuel McKibben, a private in the 14th Regiment, came to his death by the accidental discharge of a pistol in the hands of Sergeant North. All efforts to save his life were of no avail. He survived but a short time.

Another

On Wednesday, another soldier came very near meeting the same fate. A pistol in the hands of some overcareless fellow, accidentally went off and wounded a soldier in the neck but not seriously. Pocket pistols are dangerous playthings.

Ypsilanti Times April 18, 1862

Departure of 14th Regiment

After nearly a six-month stay in our city, the Fourteenth Michigan Infantry yesterday (Thursday), vacated Camp Mizner and is now off to the war, going direct from here to St. Louis. The Regiment has long been ready to take the field, both in number of men and efficiency in drill, and the arrival of the long-looked-for paymaster was the signal of their speedy departure, and at the same time replenished pockets that had grown remarkably lean. Monday and Tuesday were occupied in paying off the men, over one hundred thousand dollars being distributed. The money is mostly Treasury note of the last issue. They are a better looking note than the August issue.

Looking around on Wednesday, one could see in every direction "Squads" engaged in many ways in getting rid of their spare change. Here were groups busily engaged in the old game "heads I win, tails you lose", other "matching", "shying at a mark", "crack lieu", "pitching", "clubbing", and numerous other games for which we know no name. So the money goes. Nor is the above the only way: money like carrion bring around the "vultures", "sharpers", and "hawkers", each one standing ready to "'nab' whereever it can be "picked". Still another way - the "Subtler", this institution, though in some respects an accommodation, in many others it is a-a, yes a-if, they will get bit, bit it is — no one is to blame but the bitten, at least so *they* say.

In the quarters all was business and bustle. The boys were elated with the prospect ofgoing down where it is warm, and we venture to say that none of them will flinch even if they run the risk of getting *down* where it is warmer than they anticipated.

On Thursday twenty first-class passenger cars were sent up from Detroit, the baggage occupied six freight cars, and all were drawn by two powerful engines the Grey Hound and Goliath. Four days rations were drawn, knapsacks and guns in good order, and then the men were marched on board the train. They are accompanied by many from this city and Ann Arbor as far as St. Louis. Notwithstanding the day was rainy, disagreeable and buddy, there was a large crowd to give the hand of parting and to those they "ken ow 'er weel" a welcome kiss. At 2 o'clock the train moved slowly from the depot. Cheer after cheer was given and over all came back —

"Cheers for the sweethearts
we are now forced to leave,
Think of us, lassies, but for us don't grieve;
Bright be the garlands that for us you'll weave,
When we return to your smiles..." etc.

We saw many manly eye grown dim and a tear steal down the rough cheek of the solider; we saw many a fair head bowed down in sorrow for the husband, son or lover ... "God bless you farewell," was never uttered more fervently than upon this occasion.

"Here we part perhaps forever,
On this world of grief and pain;
Where dear ties we must sever,
But up there to meet again."

The sick were left at the hospital in care of Dr. Ashley. There are believed but ten or twelve who were not able to go on with the regiment..

The Peninsular Courier, Ann Arbor, April 29, 1862

... The Fourteenth Regiment ere by this time have slept upon the battlefield of Pittsbury. They made but a short stop in St. Louis, just long enough to be regaled by the ladies with every thing nice and good to eat. One soldier was caught stealing, and was court marshaled and expelled from the train, left on the prairie to get on the best way he could. During embarkation of the Regiment Silas Williams of Co. E. was lost overboard and drowned. This was we believe the only calamity to mar the trip of the Regiment South.

Forty years later...

The Ypsilantian, October 30, 1902

The Reunion of the Twenty-seventh

There were many interesting incidents connected with the reunion of the Twenty-seventh Michigan Infantry in this city October 22. The veterans were delighted with their welcome and treatment by the city and its citizens, and Ypsilanti, dear to them from the associations of 1862, will have a still warmer place in their affection because of the reunion of 1902 and the generous hospitality accorded them. It was an especial pleasure to revisit their old barracks in the Thompson Block, which is the only building used as a barracks in 1862 in Michigan that is still standing.

At the morning session of the regiment Colonel John P. Kirk, in welcoming them, read an unfinished poem with the late Judge Babbitt had begun for this occasion. The Judge had camped with the Twenty-seventh when he, in the commissary department, was stationed at Camp Nicholas, Kentucky...

... **Whereas,** The Twenty-seventh Michigan Infantry Association in reunion assembled have been most generously entertained during their stay in Ypsilanti, therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of this association present, desire to express our gratitude, first, to Mr. Florence S. Babbitt, our esteemed president, for her cordial invitation to old Ypsilanti, beautiful in old age, beautiful in her open-handed, generous hospitality to the old boys whom it sent out in their youth to the defense of their country; second, the Lady Maccabees for the home proffered in their beautiful hall (Richard Reid's front room, today!); also to ex-Mayor O.E. Thompson for opening to us the building known as the old barracks and rendezvous of the Twenty-seventh Michigan, that we might view our old quarters of 1862, to ex-Mayor H.P. Glover for printing, to the Kilian Orchestra, Manager Merrill of the D., Y., A.A. & Jackson R.R., to the business men and common council for their generous financial aid, to Comrades T.J. West and John Chapman for kindnesses, and to our beloved president in her efforts for our happiness and comfort. We remember with pleasure the associations formed more than forty years ago, and with the renewing of this happy acquaintance we shall carry with us through the remaining years ....

[In the June issue:
"Dead man in Huron River in 1907"]

The Wobblies are here

The Industrial Workers of the World (I.W.W.), popularly known as the Wobblies in labor union history, have opened their new international headquarters at 103 W. Michigan Avenue in Ypsilanti. The office is open from 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

The I.W.W. will hold a gala opening celebration Sunday, May 7, from 6 to 9 P.M., featuring noted Canadian labor and folk musician Lean Wallace and Ann Arbor performance artist Elise Bryant. Admission is free and refreshments will be available.

The May 7 event will inaugurate the I.W.W. Workers' Education Center. The Center will provide an extensive library of books and periodicals on labor, political and social issues, networking with advocacy groups, and labor support services such as unemployment counseling, union organizing, and strike support. Weekly events will include a labor film and video series on Tuesday evenings at 7:30, a broad range of speakers on labor and progressive topics on Thursday evenings at 7:30, and the Open Venue Coffee House on Sunday evenings at 7:30.

The facility will be available to democratic advocacy groups and individuals grounded in progressive issues.

For more information call 483-3548.

Ypsilanti Food Co-op's Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 21,
in the Ypsilanti Freighthouse

- 5 P.M. General Membership Meeting
  1995 Raffle Kick-off
  and elections of Board of Directors
- 6 P.M. Vegetarian Potluck Dinner
  Open to Everyone

Bring a dish to pass or $2.00
Folk music by Dave Boutette

Ypsilanti's

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May 6 - Mothers' Day Show
Quality crafts, foods, flowers!
A freighthouse-full of gifts for Mom!
May 13 Flower Day '95
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May 20 and 27
Plant/Flower sales!
Visit our indoor
food shops, too!

Wednesdays and Saturdays
***Open all year* in the freighthouse**
For information: 483-1480

Depot Town Association, Inc.

Minutes of the 20 April 1995 DTA meeting:

- **Minutes of March** approved as published.
- ***Rag* Report:** Tom Dodd reported that *Rag* support is down. There are plenty of stories to tell but most stories are not of Depot Town. Advertising support is way down. Because of these reasons and budgeting, this may be the last issue of *The Rag*. (Decide at May meeting)
- **Market Report:** There was no meeting last month. However, Dave French reports that there will be an opening on the Market Advisory Board.
- **Events:** Frog Island Jazz Festival is fast approaching. Approval of $200 for a Jazz Festival banner was given. Volunteers are needed for the Jazz Festival. For more information or to volunteer, call Joanne at The Ark (761-1451).
- **DDA:** A subcommittee for beautification of Depot Town met with the DDA at April's meeting. Approval was given to DTA for $400 for plantings and sprucing up the area. Other projects were presented and are being considered.
- **New Business:**

Boy Scout Troop 240 is looking for sponsorship into the Heritage Festival to promote a fund-raising event — **The Bottomless Canoe Race**. The innovative race would take place on land! Ideas were discussed. More information was needed before a decision could be reached.

Next meeting to be held 18 May 1995 at 7:30 P.M. at Renewed Interest Antiques. Many important issues will be on the agenda. Mark your calendars and prepare to attend.

Best Yet Award: The beautification subcommittee is applauded for their timely research and presentation to the DDA.

Golden Goose: Thumbs down to the area vandals who are using car windows and storefront plate windows for target practice.

Frog Island Program Book
deadline for ad copy and art is
May 1st.
Questions? Call Carolyn McKeever
at 483-4256

Rag supporters urged to turn out in May

April's line item in the DTA treasury showed an alarmingly low balance for this little monthly publication. Some suggested we merge with the *Courier*; others thought we could take over *The New/Press*. A complete financial report will be made at the May 18 meeting with decisions about the future following immediately. Anyone thinking about starting a new sponsorship is encouraged to attend this 'last chance' session.

THE DEPOT TOWN RAG
A publication of the Depot Town Association, Inc. a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to preserving the unique character of the neighborhood and to the enhancement of its business climate.
-Tom Dodd, editor
1680 Cliffs Landing
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198-7403
Phone: 313-482-6371
The Depot Town Association, Inc.
-Tom Steele, president
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Annual dues:
☐ $25 Regular Voting Member (Property or business owner)
☐ $10 Associate Member (Interested in and supportive)
☐ $100 Life Member (A great deal if you had joined in 1976!)
☐ Please place my name on the monthly mailing list of *The Depot Town Rag*
☐ Don't mail *The Rag*. I'll pick it up in the neighborhood.
✂ Clip and send check to "Depot Town Association"
c/o The Old Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

Was Camp Mizner in Depot Town?

Letter to the editor:

I have a question that I hope one of your readers can answer: During the Civil War, where was Camp Mizner?

About a year ago, David Curtis spoke at the Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County on researching soldiers who fought in the Civil War. I knew I didn't have any direct ancestors, but it turns out that two of my great grandmother's brothers were Union Soldiers. One of them, Henry Augustus Bennett, was a member of Company F of the Michigan Fourteenth Infantry. He enlisted at Lowell on Nov. 9, 1861, and was mustered in January 7, 1862 at Ypsilanti. The Fourteenth left Ypsilanti on April 17, 1862.

In Harvey Colburn's book, *The Story of Ypsilanti*, he states on page 186 that the Thompson Block at River and Cross Streets was the site of Barracks. But he does not identify which units or companies were there nor exactly when. Gilbert Park and Woodruff School were the "Commons", used as a drill ground.

People have told me that Frog Island was also used as a camp ground at this time.

In the *Free Press* of March 1, 1862, from Camp Mizner, Ypsilanti by "Havelock", he refers to the "Follet House" as a place for social evenings.

Several of the letters of William Montague Ferry, found at the Bentley Library, have Camp Mizner as their site of origin.

None of the Vett Noble's letters, which are housed at the Ypsilanti Archives mention the exact location either. Dr. Donald Disbrow edited them for an article published in *Civil War History*, March 1968, vol. 14, #1.

I have exhausted my source ideas, and would be happy to try suggestions from others.

Sincerely,
-Marcia McCrary,
1679 LeForge, Ypsilanti

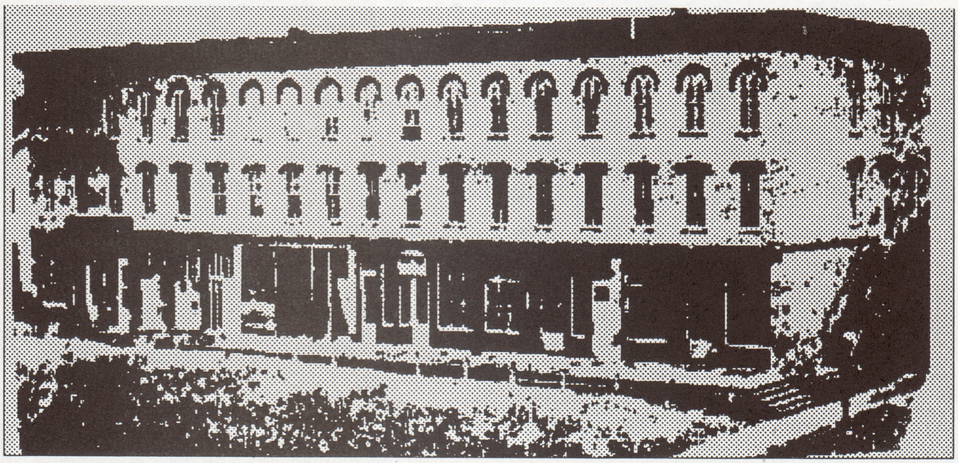
Marcia:
Some of James Thomas Mann's recent diggings may be of help to you and others searching for Ypsilanti's Civil War camp. At the displeasure of those who seek yet another monthly installment of murder and mayhem, we will hold the story of "Man dead in Huron River in 1907" off another month and offer up Mann's findings of local history regarding Camp Mizner and encourage our readers to share their information, as well. -ed.

The Peninsular Courier, Ann Arbor, August 13, 1861

... Mr. Roberts, of Ypsilanti, is filling up the block corner of Cross and River Streets, near the Depot, with a beautiful brick building which he proposes to use as a market. It is in good taste with the rest of the block...

The Peninsular Courier and Ypsilanti Herald, Tuesday, January 28, 1862

... Fifty of the Lancers - which regiment has been disbanded - arrived here Thursday, and eighty-two more came in Friday night. The regiment stationed here must be nearly full, if not quite so.



Barracks of the 27th Regiment, as it looked in 1862 - now known as The Thompson Block

The regiment is stationed in a large brick building east of the depot. In the basement is the culinary arrangement. Each company cooks for itself. The boys have lots of fun. They have a debating society, and also hold dances in the upper story where they 'balance to your partner" in the genuine style, to the music of fiddle and bones. And then, we are sorry to say, there is another class who like to "pitch in" and have a good fight. We saw three last week, one of which resulted in both participants being badly used up by a more sensible horse; they having got under his feet, he gently helped them out by kicking them a rod or two.

We believe there are no immediate dangerous cases in the hospital, at present. **Query:** why do they put a person afflicted with a contagious disease in the same room with the other patients?

The regiment has also got a suttler. As these institutions are causing great excitement and talk in Washington, those wishing to see one will find him next door to the Guard House.

The Peninsular Courier and Ypsilanti Herald, Ann Arbor, Thursday, February 4, 1862

Surgeon Batwell has handed us an answer to the query which we propounded in our last issue. We visited the hospital some two weeks since, in one room there were six patients one of which had the measles, the others may have had it but we saw no signs of it. However it was not until it was spoken of to us that we thought of mentioning the fact. We did not wish to be misunderstood in the matter, nor was it our intention to say anything prejudicial to the management of the hospital, which are in every efficient hands. The health of the regiment is excellent.

Camp Mizner, Feb. 3rd, 1862
Mr. Editor:

In your last issue, in noticing some of our particulars connected with the 14th Regiment you were pleased to draw attention to the Hospital arrangements under my supervision, and as your remarks are calculated to mislead those who are ignorant of the fact, I trust you will do me the justice of contradicting the report that contagious diseases are promiscuously scattered through the several wards of the hospital. In the first place, we have not a single contagious disease either in the hospital or quarters, and secondly, if such an unfavorable event should arise, we profess to have sufficient knowledge in the governance of a hospital; and also ample accommodation to keep our patients so afflicted in separate rooms. We have some cases of measles, which are kept separate from the other patients, and as we found that disease in the city when we came, we make no remarks on the subject, being unwilling to interfere with the established "institutions" of Ypsilanti.

Our hospital reports, and our bill of mortality will compare favorably with any other Regiment in the West, and we consider our hospital arrangements very far superior to any other in the state. I will take this occasion of returning to "The Ladies Aid Society" my heartfelt thanks for the assistance rendered to the sick oldiers under my charge, and in particularly to the *few* who constantly provide those little delicacies for the convalescents which money could not buy. I wish I could mention the names of some who daily visited the hospital, bringing some of these little remembrances to the poor sick soldier, who having left the comfort of home, and the kindly attention of mother and sister, and wife, and affection of devoted children, bravely and patriotically came forth to fight for their country and its Government. Surely it is not too much to expect that those who are surrounded by all the comforts, which our soldiers have left, should come forward and assist them in the hour of trial and sickness and contribute to their necessities and requirements.

Hope you will insert the above contradiction to your remarks of last week and also that you will become more familiar with our hospital arrangements before publishing anything prejudicial to it.

I lay it remate,
Respectfully yours,
-Edward Batwell
Surgeon 14th Michigan Infantry

The Peninsular Courier, Ann Arbor, March 11, 1862

Flag Presentation

On Saturday last, a beautiful flag was presented to the Fourteenth Regiment by the ladies of Ypsilanti. The presentation was made by Prof. Still, of the Normal School,

[Cont. page 3]

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Frog Island Fest a neighborhood opportunity

The biggest concerts of the year happen for three days in late June in Depot Town's back yard, drawing thousands of happy music lovers to the block. Before, after, and between sets of some of the best music on earth, fans will roam the blocks of Cross and River Streets, seeking food, drink, and a comfortable place sit and rest. Depot Town and the Frog Island Festival were made for each other.

Actually, it was Depot Town who started the phenomenon, then gave it over to The Ark to manage -- but the Depot Town Association still produces the 32-page Frog Island Program Book as the primary fund-raiser for its monthly publication of eighteen years: *The Depot Town Rag* (you're holding one right now!).

Shop owners are encouraged to carry out the 'Green/Frog/Jazz' theme in their window displays, menu items, and specials for the month of June and to call attention to them in the Festival's Program Book. Advertising/sponsorship rates will be circulated up and down the block with a mid-May deadline and promise to draw thousands of new customers into the district for the third weekend in June.

Don't miss this opportunity to meet new people, hear some great music, and let your Depot Town interest be known to the second largest influx of street traffic of the year.

And in July and August, we'll have a chance at the very biggest group of tourists: the Yesterfesters who flock to the annual Ypsilanti Heritage Festival.

Never let it be said there's no opportunity to draw new folks to this old district; these two events are envied around the state and region for the dynamic force of new introductions made possible by the annual hyperbole which promotes the events - and the adjacent district. That's why they got started in the first place; and that's why Depot Town keeps on keeping on with such gigantic promotions.

Watch for a rate sheet to be circulated this week for the Frog Island Program Book and start planning now for business-size ads, quarter-pagers, center-spreads, or the prestigous inside back- and front-cover placements. Past Festival clean-up crews attest to the fact that virtually *no* Program Books are *ever* found on the grounds after the concerts. *All* are read and taken home. Local promotions are placed along side the artists' biographies throughout the book and every item is noticed by a loyal and regular readership.

Enterprising entrepreneurs will value the financial facts that follow on this excellent promotional opportunity in our own back yard.

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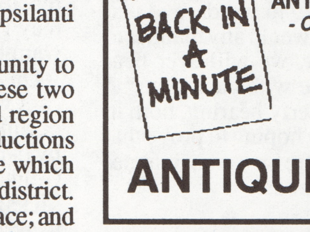
At left:
Deb, Richard
Mary, Angie, Lynn
Leslee, & Joyce